AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2010 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 11, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2764

Introduced by Committee on Judiciary (Feuer (Chair), Brownley, Evans, Jones, Lieu, and Monning)

February 25, 2010

An act to amend Section 6140 Sections 6140, 6140.35, and 6140.36 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to the State Bar Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2764, as amended, Committee on Judiciary. The State Bar Act: fees.

Existing law, the State Bar Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of attorneys by the State Bar of California, a public corporation and the State Bar is governed by the Board of Governors of the State Bar. Existing law requires the Board of Governors—of the State Bar to charge an annual membership fee for active members of up to \$315 for the year 2010. Existing law also requires the board to charge an annual membership fee for inactive members of up to \$75. Under existing law, these fees are payable on or before the first day of March 2010.

This bill would require the board to charge that annual membership fee for active members for 2011. The bill would also specify that the annual membership fee for active members and inactive members is payable on or before the first day of February of each year.

Existing law, until January 1, 2011, authorizes the Board of Governors to increase the annual membership fee for active members

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by up to \$10 in any year to be used for the costs of upgrading its information technology system, and requires this additional amount to be separately listed and described in the annual membership fee invoice. Existing law also requires the board to report to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Judiciary, on or before April 1, 2009, and twice thereafter as specified, on the use of these additional funds.

This bill would extend the operation of the provision authorizing an increase of the annual membership fee to January 1, 2014, and would require the board to report on the use of these additional funds on or before April 1, 2014.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 6140 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:
- 3 6140. (a) The board shall fix the annual membership fee for active members for 2011 at a sum not exceeding three hundred fifteen dollars (\$315).
 - (b) The annual membership fee for active members is payable on or before the first day of February of each year. If the board finds it appropriate and feasible, it may provide by rule for payment of fees on an installment basis with interest, by credit card, or other means, and may charge members choosing any alternative method of payment an additional fee to defray costs incurred by that election.
 - (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2012, and, as of that date, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends that date.
- 16 SEC. 2. Section 6140.35 of the Business and Professions Code 17 is amended to read:
- 18 6140.35. (a) The board may increase the annual membership 19 fee fixed by Section 6140 by an additional amount not exceeding
- 20 ten dollars (\$10). This additional amount may be used only for the
- 21 costs of upgrading the board's information technology system,
- 22 including purchasing and maintenance costs and both computer
- 23 hardware and software. This special assessment for information
- 24 technology upgrades shall be separately listed and described in

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the annual membership fee invoice, which shall include notice of the repeal of this section on January 1, 2014.

(b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2011 2014, and, as of that date, is repealed.

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- 5 SEC. 3. Section 6140.36 of the Business and Professions Code 6 is amended to read:
- 6140.36. (a) The board shall report to the Assembly Committee on Judiciary and the Senate Committee on Judiciary on or before April 1,–2009 2011, and on or before April 1 of the succeeding two years, on the use of the funds authorized pursuant to Section 6140.35.
- 12 (b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2012 13 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, 14 that is enacted before January 1, 2012 2014, deletes or extends 15 that date.